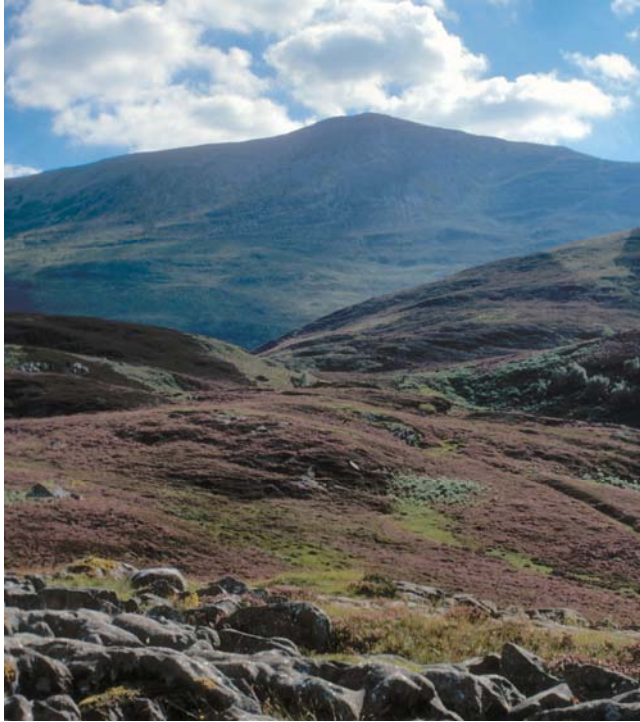


Information Sheet



John Muir Trust – Scotland, UK

In brief

The John Muir Trust aims to raise money to purchase areas of land that are of value for their habitat and recreational value and then to manage these lands for the benefit of the inhabitants, visitors and for the wildlife and habitat. The mountain of Schiehallion in Scotland (UK) counts up to 20,000 ascents each year which have caused erosion of the footpath to the summit. The project has received a grant of just under EUR€2,000 to allow the Trust to resurface this footpath using locally quarried stone. Volunteers will carry out the work with leadership from the Trust and construction workers. New information boards will be erected to inform visitors of the environmental issues and the work of the Trust. The project output is expected to provide a lasting solution to the problem of erosion in this area whilst maintaining full access for walkers and climbers.

The Project

East Schiehallion in Perthshire (one of the Trust's owned lands) is climbed by over 20,000 people each year due to its ease of accessibility. While general maintenance is carried out annually on the realigned pathway, a major project to naturally resurface the footpath is necessary in 2007. The project involves local people and volunteers from further afield and the new interpretation materials will raise awareness of the importance of respecting areas we use for recreation and will inform and educate. This is a one year project but will have benefits for significantly longer and will add to existing project works underway.

The aim is to provide a resurfaced foot path using locally quarried stone [from borrow-pits] encouraging walkers to stick to the main path and not stray onto areas where land regeneration is essential. The intention is also to execute a survey to establish the progress of existing natural regeneration on key sections of the path particularly the upper section.

The John Muir Trust works with the local community building good relationships throughout the local Schiehallion groups including with the adjacent Forestry Commission. There will be volunteering opportunities for people in the local community and from a wider area through promotion via The John Muir Trust media outlets (website, mailings, and magazine).

New updated interpretation (information) boards will be provided at the intersection of the start of the path and the car park giving new and returning walkers information about Schiehallion and the Trust.

The Organisation

The John Muir Trust (JMT) is one of the Scotland's leading guardians of wild land and wildlife. As a prominent membership organisation it carries out a charitable role through the ownership of land and the promotion of education, activities and conservation.

Established in 1983 the JMT owns and manages estates on Skye, Knoydart, Assynt, Lochaber and Perthshire in Scotland. The iconic peaks of Ben Nevis, Schiehallion and many of the southern Cuillins of Skye are protected by the Trust. In addition to its owned properties it also works in partnership with many other communities in the management of estates across Scotland.

Although the Trust's properties are located in Scotland it is very much a national and international body. The environmental John Muir Award promotes awareness and responsibility for wild places across the United Kingdom while overseas it has strong links with The Sierra Club in the United States which, like the JMT, celebrates the work, spirit and legacy of Dunbar born John Muir.

Primary Mission

The John Muir Trust is working to safeguard wild land and help wildlife and flora to prevail in wild places. It promotes the freedom and opportunity for people to enjoy wild places and inspires people to respect and conserve wild places through responsible action.

www.jmt.org